

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: MARC EVAN RICHELSON

Serial No.: 09/280,283

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: 03-29-99

Examiner: Woo, J

For: SPINAL IMPLANTATION FIXATION ASSEMBLY

Our File No.: 0184.00037

AMENDMENT

Box Amendments  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to Office Action dated December 30, 1999, Paper No. 6. Please enter the following amendments to the application in order to place the application in condition for allowance or at least in better condition for appeal. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 1, please delete "an" and insert therefore --a--.

Claim 1, line 1, before "cylindrical" please insert --smooth wall--.

Claim 2, line 6, please delete "position" and insert therefore --portion--.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 8 are an independent form.

The Office Action states that Claims 1 and 2 stand objected to as being having informalities. Specifically, in Claim 1, line 1, the Office Action suggests that "an" to be replaced by --a--. Additionally, in Claim 2, line 6, the Office Action suggests that the term "position" should be replaced by

ENTER  
ms  
3/20/00